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AN ELEMENTARY TREATISE ON THE LAW OF REAL PROPERTY. By Elliott Judd Northrup. Boston, Little, Brown & Co., 1919. Pp. XXV-441.

Professor Northrup's book covers substantially the same ground as Professor Bigelow's *Introduction to the Law of Real Property* herein before reviewed. Its purpose is to serve as a text for a short course on the law of real property. The author has made use of some of the most modern studies in his field and has produced a work which can be used profitably by students of the case system for the same purpose as that which led Professor Bigelow to write his *introduction to his case book on Rights in Land*. Professor Northrup's footnotes, while not voluminous, are quite sufficient to enable the student to refer to authorities where the subject matter of the text may be further examined. We have here a modernized presentation of the subject matter of the second book of Blackstone's *Commentaries* which may enable students to obtain a more comprehensive view of the whole field of the law, than the mere case system of study can give.

THE LAW OF GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS. By R. Preston Shealey, New York, The Ronald Press Co., 1919. Price, \$4.00.

Lawyers and business men will find this manual of value for ready reference to statutes regulating contracts with the government, decisions interpreting these statutes and many suggestions as to the practice established by government officials. The subject of government contracts while based on the well known fundamental principles of the law of contracts is differentiated by special rules and regulations relating to almost every branch of the subject. These are of the utmost importance, and non-observance of them may lead to most disastrous consequences. It is the duty of all persons dealing with government officials to know these special rules and the book before us gives this knowledge in most compact and readable form.

AMERICAN MARRIAGE LAWS IN THEIR SOCIAL ASPECTS. By Fred S. Hall and Elisabeth W. Brooke. New York, Russell Sage Foundation, 1919. Pp. 3-132.

This compact little volume presents an enormous amount of material arranged by States on (1) common law marriages, (2) marriageable age, (3) marriage licenses, (4) solemnization, (5) marriage record, (6) interstate relations, (7) other prohibitions, with reference to the statutes and occasionally to adjudicated cases. The same subject matter is treated topically and these two parts of the book are preceded by some proposals for marriage law reform. Miss Mary E. Richman, in the preface, states that in about three-fifths of all the cases of problems of individual welfare referred to the Committee of a Society, of which she was a worker, the core of the difficulty was found to be marital maladjustment, although, she adds, that the proportion in the whole work of the society would not be nearly so large. She intimates that perhaps too much attention has been given to the effects of our divorce laws and too little to those regulating marriage. To those interested in the social problems centering about this topic, this little book will prove of great value as a point of departure for more detailed study and investigation.